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## Keeping Up With Today

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# Keeping Up With Today

*Barbara Sgarlata presents timely home economics news in a nation keyed to war*

A POINT of controversy is the favorite army desert—pie. The pies are baked in great rectangular pans and each one is divided into 70 squares. Although the cook says that the shape doesn't affect the flavor, the boys insist they prefer pie with points—the traditional triangle.

*Mess hall talk is vivid. A soldier who wants an additional helping of meat loaf asks for "seconds on kennel rations."*

No early shortage of lamps is predicted for 6 to 16 months' needs of tungsten wire is already in stock. Although imports come mainly from China and British Malaya, the American government is attempting to find new sources in Latin American countries.

*"It melts like butter" will be an expression of the past with the new butter now being shipped to the U. S. troops overseas. "Carter spread," named after its inventor, Lt. Robert F. Carter of the Quartermaster Corps, is prepared from dairy butter fortified with hydrogenated cotton seed oil flakes and will resist temperatures up to 110° F.*

Wearing a piece of toast and a feather for a hat may sound eccentric, but actually women of tomorrow may dress in smart synthetic wool garments made of wheat gluten. The process will be practical only if some use can be found for the resulting wheat starch.

*Sugar and tire shortages cause considerable indecision as to the amounts of edible molasses which should be used for industrial alcohol. The alcohol is used for synthetic rubber and since tires are so vital, the government is hoping that next year there will be a great increase in the making of rubber chemicals from petroleum, thus replacing the use of sugar.*

Since a greater share of tapioca and other sago starches go into glue, paper and textile finishes, homemakers will give this heretofore "common dessert" new consideration. Tapioca is one of the raw materials affected by the war in the Pacific.

*If the social position of men in the Army is determined by the amount of mail they receive, Iowa State women are boosting that of many soldiers. All organized houses are writing campus news to former students now in the services.*

*Our mothers sewed mittens on tape and strung them through our coat sleeves; today the Army is fastening lambskin muffs to the handle bars of motorcycles for men who ride through wind and weather.*

Guest of the American Association of University Women this month will be Dr. Winifred C. Cullis, a member of the British Informative Service in the United States, who is touring the country as an ambassador of British women. Dr. Cullis is here to keep Americans informed about her countrywomen and their work in war-time.

*Sending boxes to the boys in camp is something we all can do*

